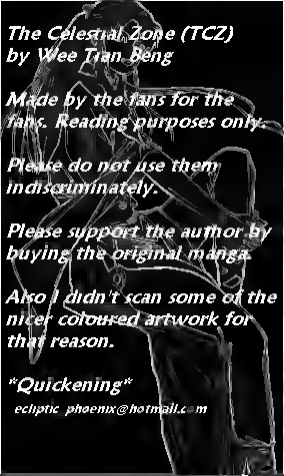
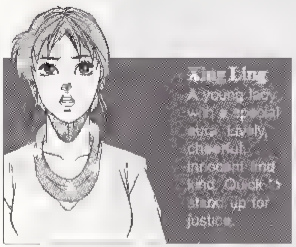
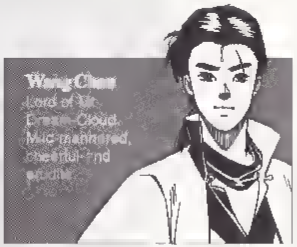

The Celestial Zone (TCZ)
by Wee Tian Beng
Made by the fans for the fans. Reading purposes only.
Please do not use them indiscriminately.
Please support the author by buying the original manga.
Also I didn't scan some of the nicer coloured artwork for that reason.
"Quickening"
ecliptic_phoenix@hotmail.com

Characters in this Volume:

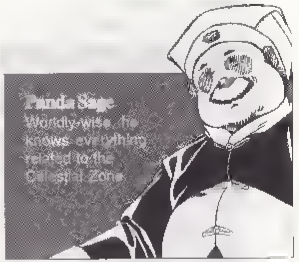


Xing Ling
A young lady with a special aura. Lively, cheerful, innocent and kind. Quick to stand up for justice.



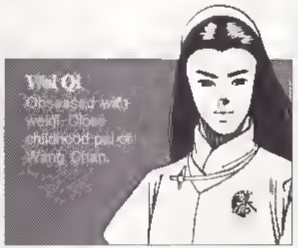
Wang Chen
Lord of Mt. Cream-Cloud. Mild-mannered, cheerful and erudite.

Panda Belle
Renowned in the Celestial Zone for her culinary and sewing skill.



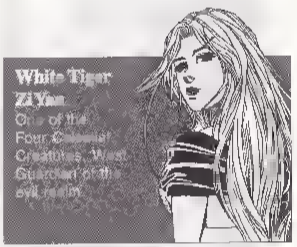
Panda Sage
Worldly-wise, he knows everything related to the Celestial Zone.

Doctor Chuyi
A roving Tianjia physician. Abhors violence.

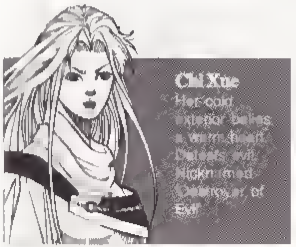


Wei Qi
Obsessed with weiqi. Close childhood pal of Wang Chen.

Jade Rabbit
High-hand envoy of Moon Sect.



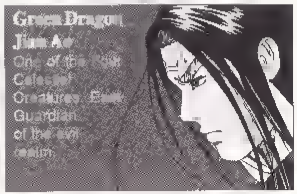
White Tiger Zi Yan
One of the Four Celestial Creatures. Wise. Guardian of the evil realm.



Chi Xue
Her cold exterior belies a warm heart. Detests evil. Nicknamed Demoness of Evil.

Xue Wu
Senior of Wang Chen. Tends to be extreme and competitive.

Three-Star Twist
Secret envoy of Moon Sect.

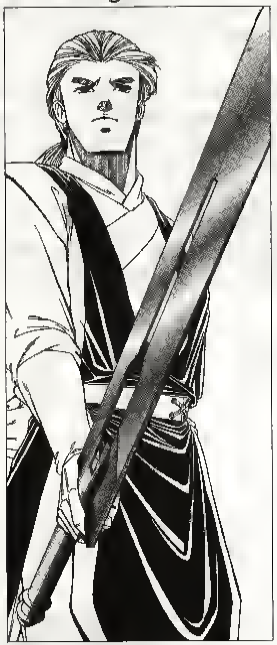


Green Dragon Jian Ao
One of the four Celestial Creatures. Fierce. Guardian of the evil realm.

Chapter Twenty-Five
Wang Chan's First Kiss *5*

Chapter Twenty-Six
Lethal Toad Hands *39*

Chapter Twenty-Seven
Mutation Again *73*



Chapter Twenty-Eight
Mystical Twelve Earthly Branches *107*

Recapturing...

After being struck by a dragon-shaped beam of light, Xing Ling was capable of stunning feats like floating in the air and emitting rays of light.

To solve the mystery, Xing Ling and her friends made their way to Bamboo Grove, where the worldly-wise Panda Sage resided. He knew everything about the Celestial Zone, past and present. He surmised that the Aura of E-mei, which appeared only once in every 100 years, had struck Xing Ling. It was now trapped in her body and would burst out any time!

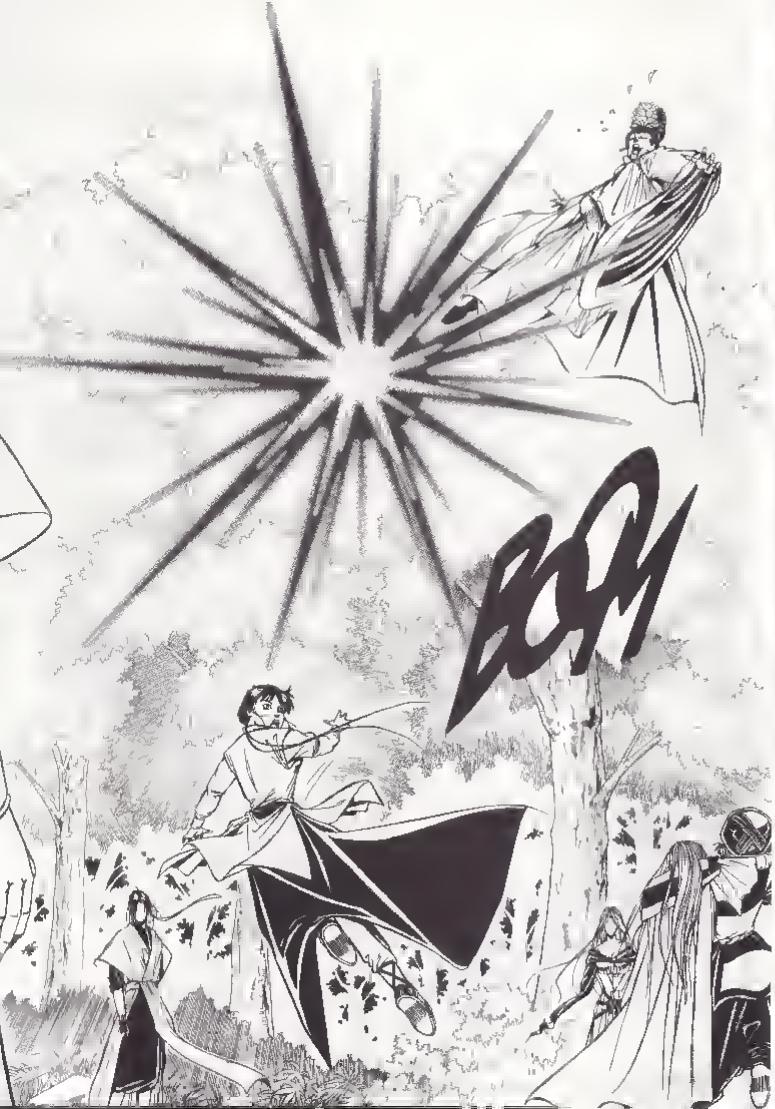
To save her own life, Xing Ling had to cultivate her spiritual force to harness the awesome aura within her. Xing Ling was now a member of the Celestial Zone ..

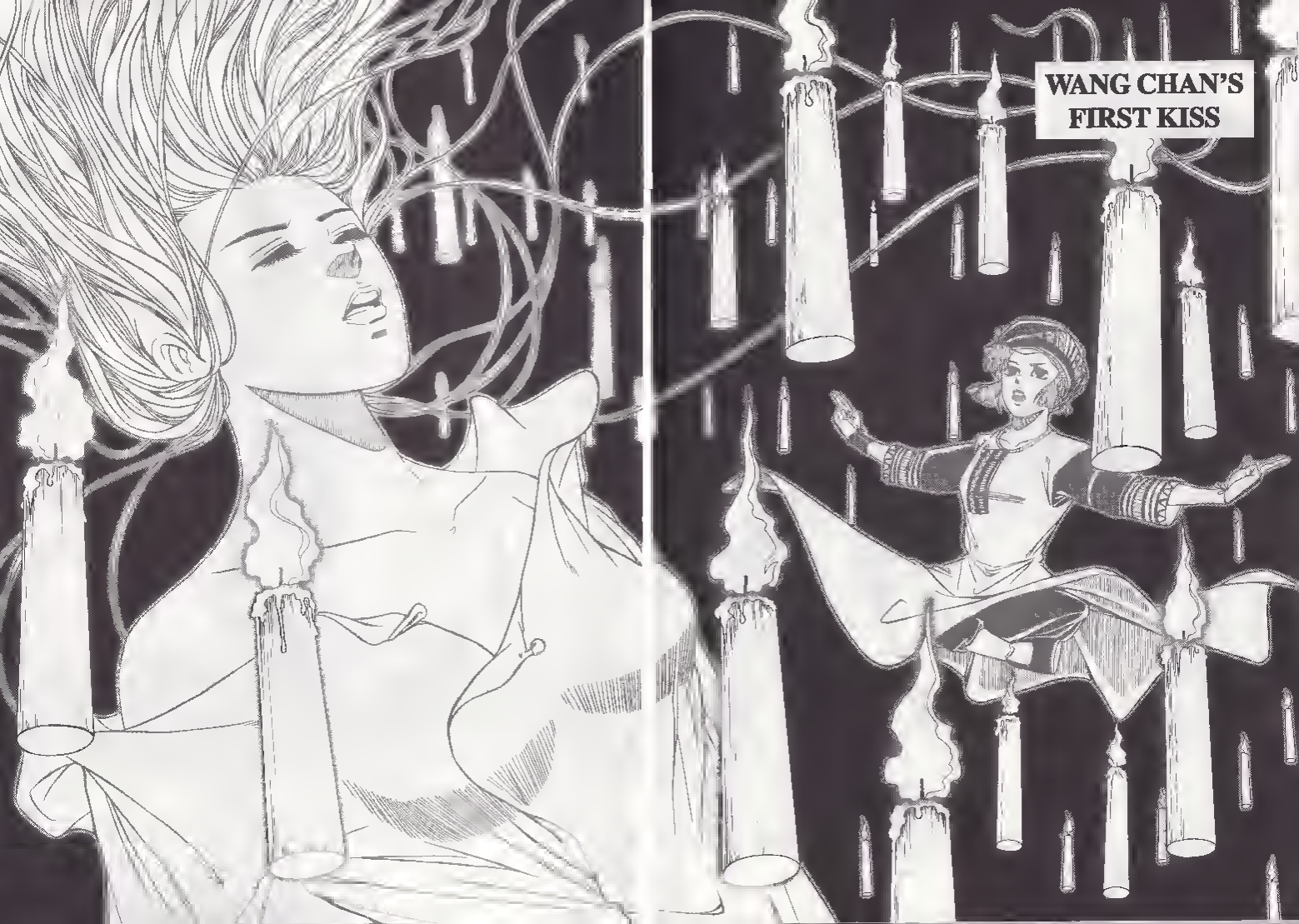
Chi Xue was ambushed by Jade Rabbit, White Tiger, Green Dragon and Three-Star Toad. She was viciously poisoned...

Quickening

Thanks for reading TCZ!
Please buy the original manga!

How can it be... how can she have such strength?
Wretch! You've humiliated me!
Only Heaven can help you now...
FLOOP
Ha ha! Perhaps the three of us can save her?


BOOM


WANG CHAN'S
FIRST KISS

Chan! You guys are here! Great!
Xing Ling, after just 10 days of practice...
...you could actually withstand Jade Rabbit.
It's indeed incredible!
What! She only spent 10 days to acquire such powers? How can that be? Impossible!
Hey... so you were watching me get beaten up again!
Oh no, no! Hee, hee... Would I dare?

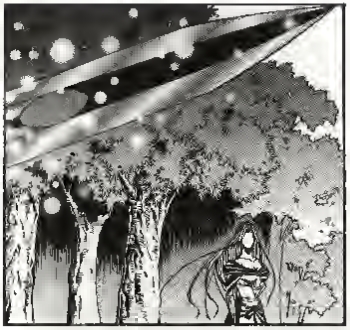
Ah? Chi Xue? Chuyi what's happened to her?
Chi Xue? The Destroyer of Evil?
Chan, don't touch her. She's been poisoned and needs immediate treatment!
Hey, take it easy!

None of you shall leave this place alive!
Ha, ha! I'll let you die without regrets! Listen!
These two are the celestial creatures Green Dragon and White Tiger!
Hee hee! Even the Destroyer of Evil is no match for us!
You'd better kill yourselves and save us the trouble! Ha, ha!

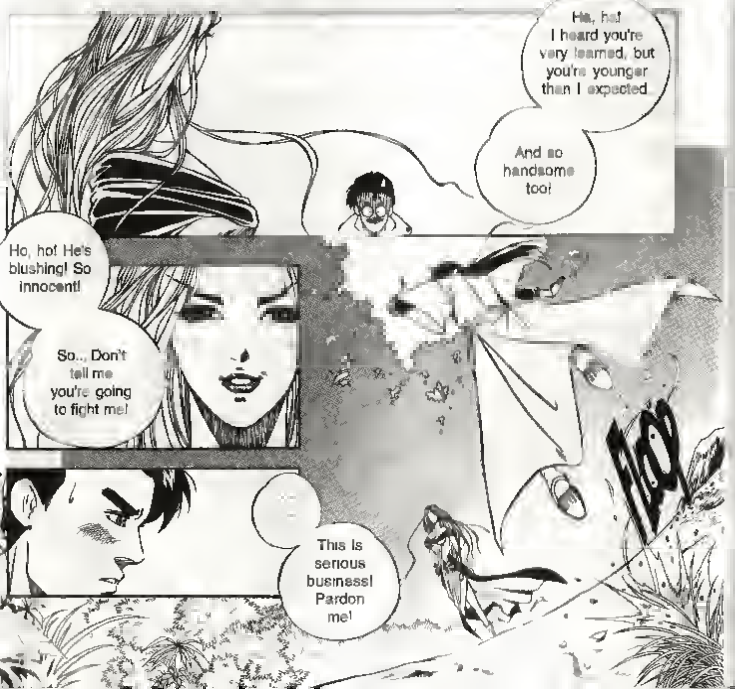
Green Dragon White Tiger — the Seven Powers Good!
Qi Jade Rabbit is the weakest among them
Defeat her and escort Chuyi and the rest to Bamboo Grove
Got it!
Hey, auntie with the flower! Stop nagging there! You're going to be busy!
Rascal! Go to Hell!

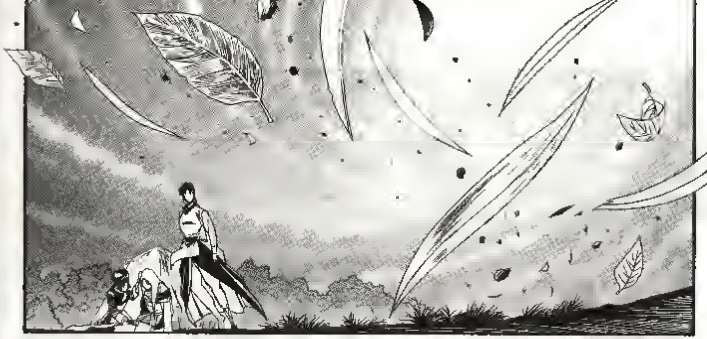
Lad, not bad! Who are you?
Xue Wu from Mt Dream-Cloud
Ho, ho! So you're from Mt Dream-Cloud
I'll get rid of you first to avoid any trouble in future!

I can't bear to use all my strength on pretty girls
But with a burly opponent like you, I will show no mercy!
Cut the crap!
Come on! Show me the prowess of the Four Celestial Creatures!



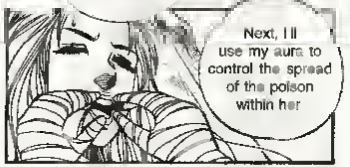
So you're from Mt Dream-Cloud..
I've a hunch that you are Wang Chan


Ha, ha! I heard you're very learned, but you're younger than I expected..
And so handsome too!
Ho, ho! He's blushing! So innocent!
So.., Don't tell me you're going to fight me!
This is serious business! Pardon me!



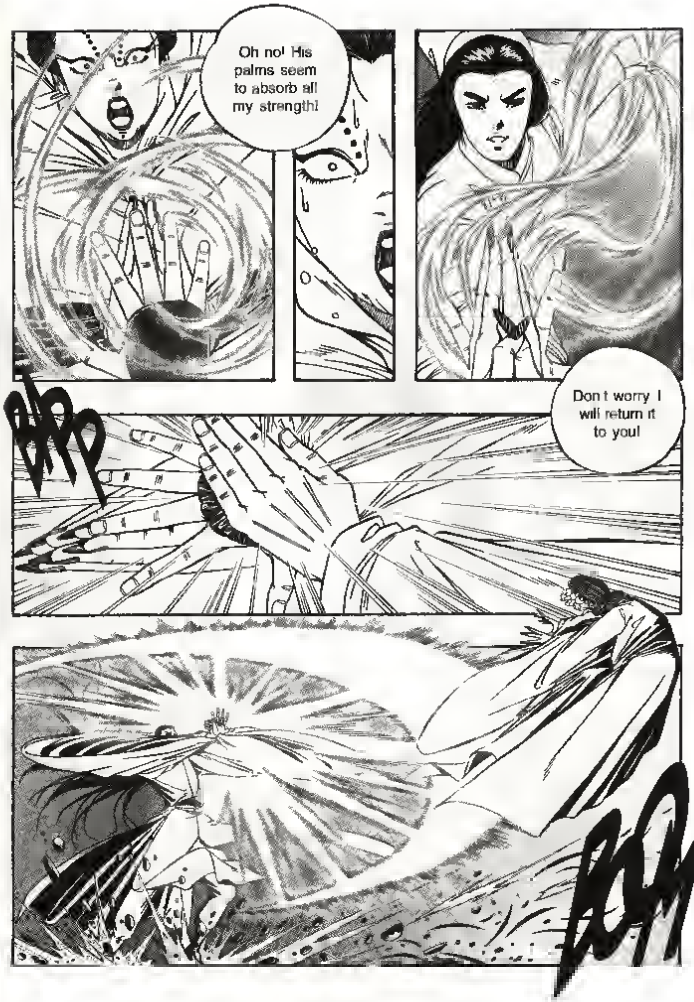
Wonder if there's anyone else from the evil realm lurking nearby. Looks like we can't go back. How is Chi Xue?

Not too good. Too bad I didn't bring enough medicine.
I'll give her this Blood Cleansing Stabiliser..


Next, I'll use my aura to control the spread of the poison within her

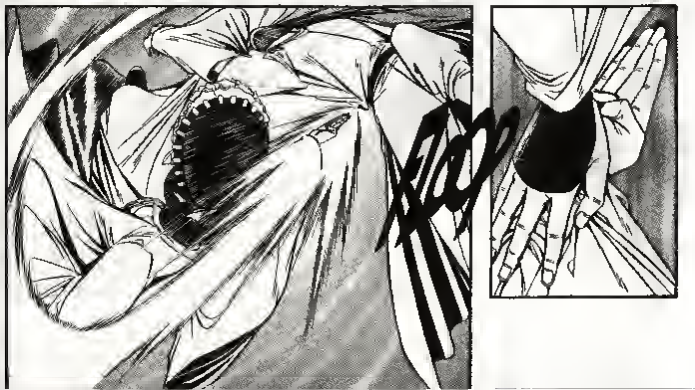
Xing Ling please keep watch..
No problem

All right my dear auntie, I'll take you on!
BOOM


Oh no! His palms seem to absorb all my strength!
Don't worry I will return it to you!
BOOM

FLOOP
Jade Rabbit I rarely use both the *yin* and *yang* of my Ultimate Palms
I'm forced by circumstances Watch out!

BLIP


FOOP

BOOM

BOOM
Damn! Don't treat me as garbage!
HOWL

SHUK
Pant
Pant

Jade Rabbit I never underrate my opponents!
But today I am sure I can defeat you within 20 strokes!

Wow, you're really wild!
Can't you be gentle to a lady?

BOOM

Why is my heart beating so fast?
SH
Oh no! I can't let her keep dodging!
WIND ILLUSION!

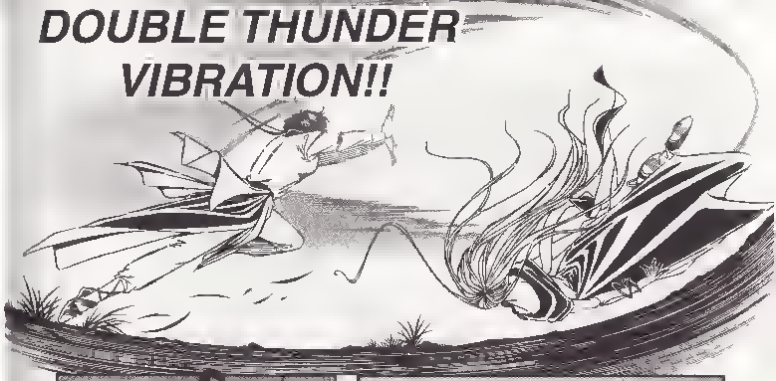
SKOSH

Ah— So— rry
Ooh— Your face is as red as a tomato! Oh so cute!
Ha! I didn't mean to fight with you You started it
If— you don't wish to fight anymore, farewell!
And now you're leaving after kissing me! You're really good at taking advantage of others!
It— was an accident I'm sorry
I'll make it up to you if there's a chance Bye!
Heel!

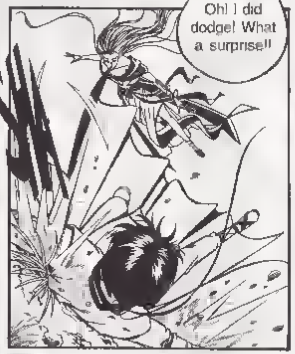
Xing Ling, watch out!

Oh? You're so concerned about her

I'll stand my ground!


DOUBLE THUNDER VIBRATION!!

SWOOSH

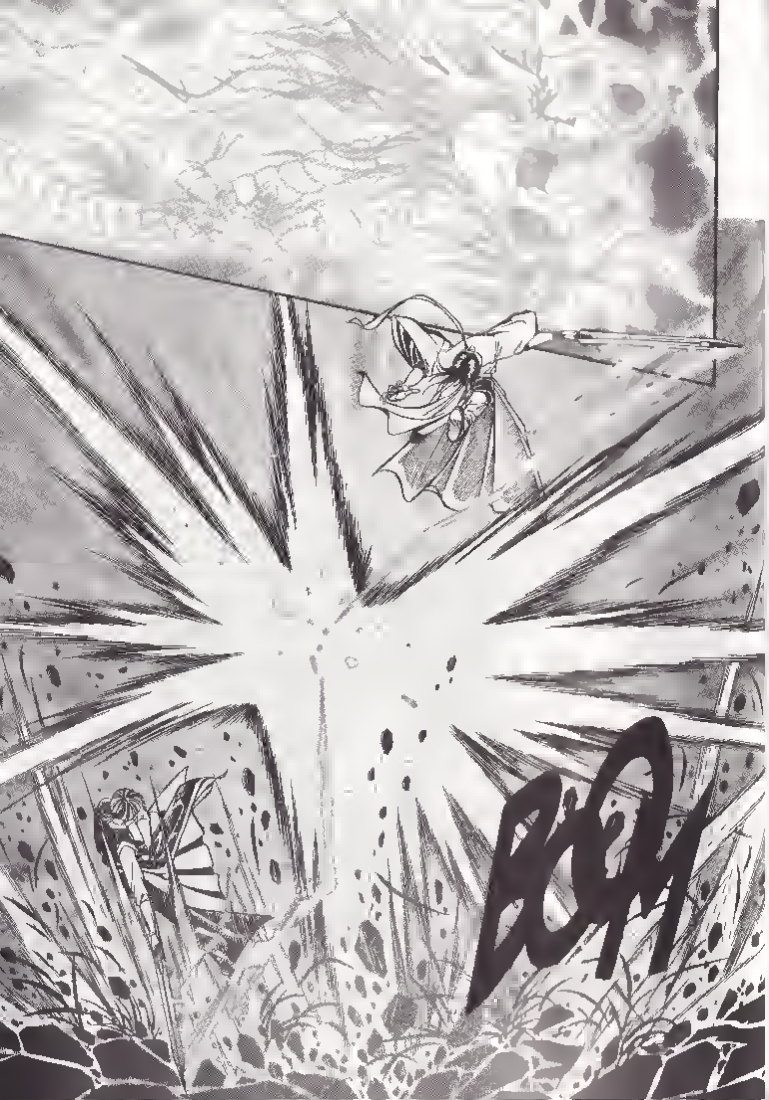

Oh! I did dodge! What a surprise!!

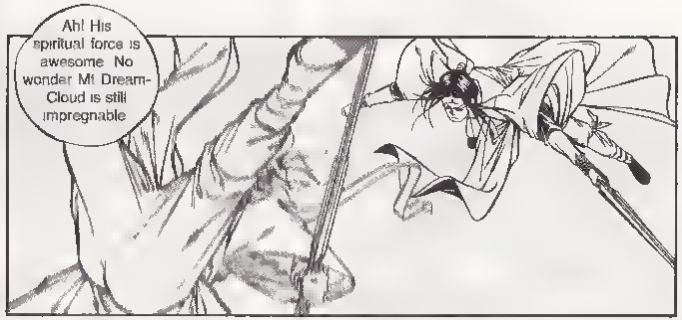
BOOM

What do you want?
Nothing.
You wanted to leave after kissing me... and I didn't stop you.
Now you hit me and ask me what I want. You're overbearing!
I'm sorry. We have to go.
If you don't wish to fight, please make way.
Wow! So serious (and so cute)!! If you wish to leave with them, fine.
I don't wish to engage in violence with you either.

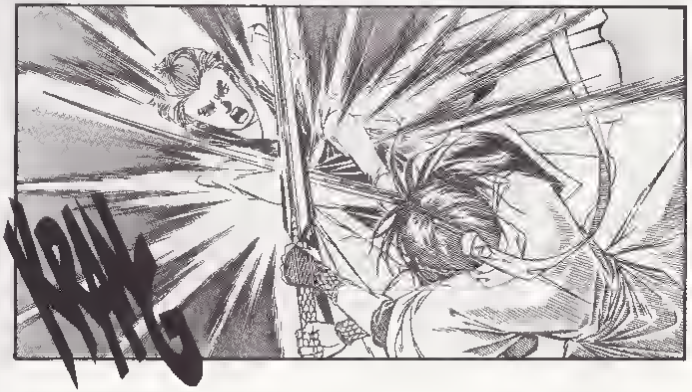
If you can take this *Shilahong* flower from my mouth
I won't stop you. Well?
She's a swift fighter. I must be even quicker.
OK. Deal!
Hee!

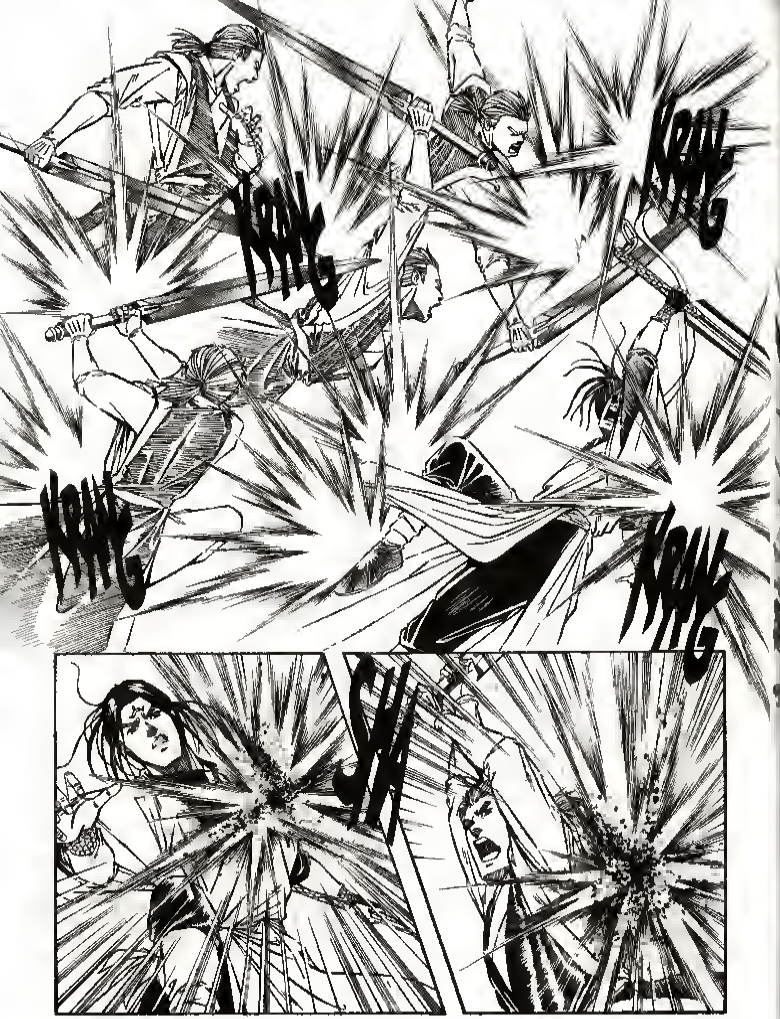
Quick note: Shilahong is a type of medicinal geranium. Geranium also has some interesting meanings <


BOOM


Ah! His spiritual force is awesome. No wonder Mt Dream-Cloud is still impregnable

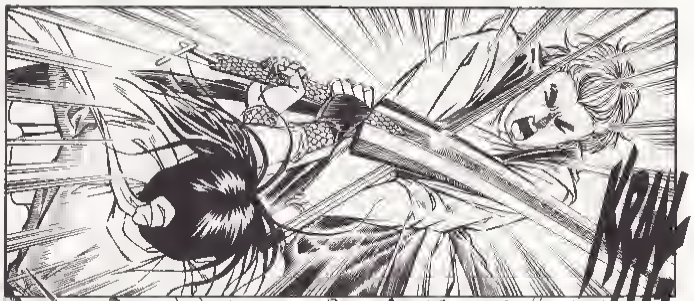
A mighty Green Dragon indeed! Let's test my new skills!


KRAK


KRAK
KRAK
KRAK
KRAK
SH

KRAK
KRAK
KRAK

KRANG
KRANG
KRANG


KRANG

BOOM

Quickening

LETHAL TOAD
HANDS

Cheep...
Cheep...
SHUK

His spiritual force is impressive And he can be ruthless!
It's my first taste of such so-called righteous swordsmanship
Green Dragon is as powerful as Xuan Tian Crow..
Despite the long fight I've not lost Hmm.... my prowess has improved!
I will not lose this fight!
I must prove I'm not inferior to the Seven Powers!
Hey, why should I fear a nobody from Mt Dream-Cloud?

Come on!
ELECTRIC HEAVENLY NET!

Argh!! Such a mighty current! I can't move at all!
CELESTIAL DRAGON!

KRAK
CELESTIAL DRAGON
THUNDER FLAME!
BOOM

Excellent!
Green-Dragon, take another blow of mine!

HEAVENLY THUNDER SLASH!

Watch out for the 11th stroke!
Go to Hell!

Stroke number 10!

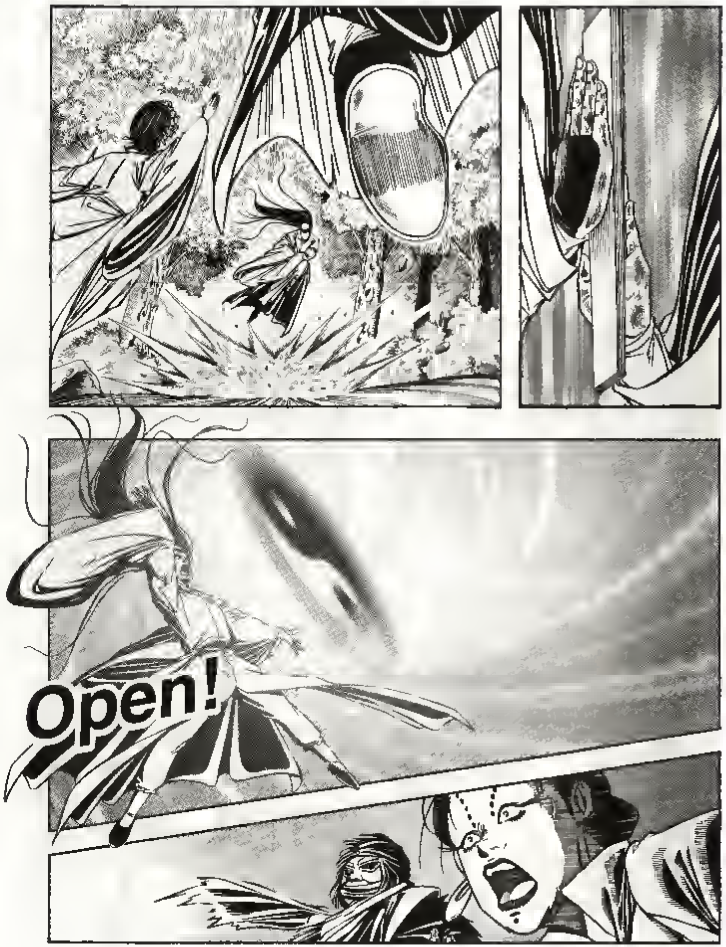
MIND MANIPULATION!
Rascal! Listen here!
You're now my servant! My servant
You must obey your master. Obey your master!
Yes

Dream on!
Pant! This woman's evil powers are no joke!
Better end this fight quick
A slight distraction and I'll fall under her spell!

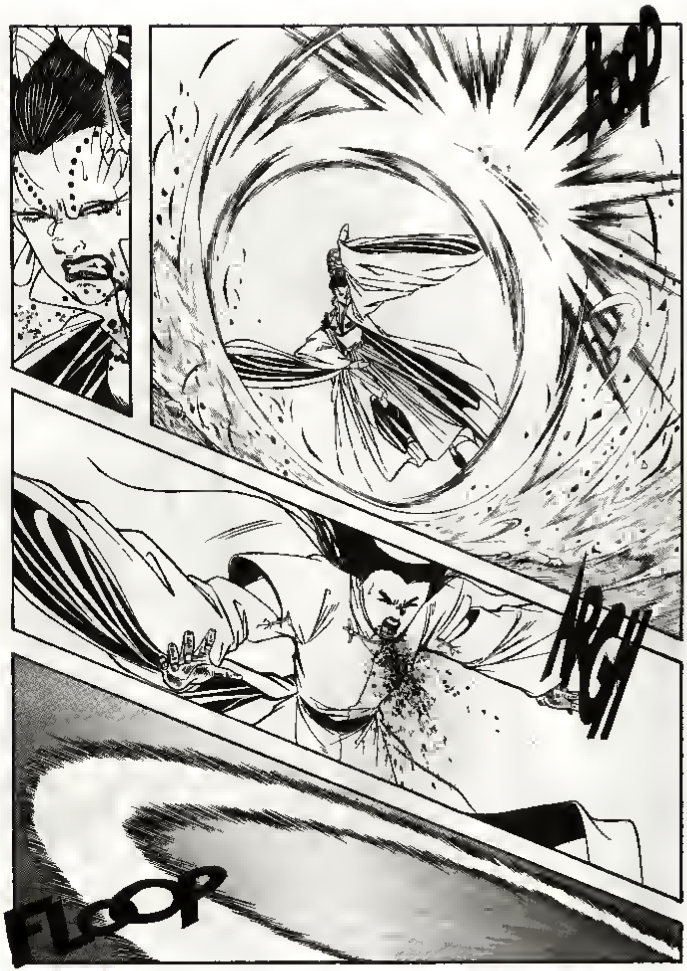
DOUBLE MOON SLASHES!
Damn! This lad is unbelievably good

Good skill! But what a pity...
You've been attacked by Three-Star Toad's Lethal Toad Hands!
What! Lethal Toad? The Three-Star Toad!
Oh no! My palms are growing numb and my breathing pant is going awry
Such lethal poison!
Having regrets? Ha, ha! Too late! Too late!
Try using your spiritual force to control the poison. But

It's useless, because you touched Little Toad's poisonous palms!
The poison will spread quicker than that in the Destroyer of Evil's body!
Hee, hee, I almost lost. But I really must give White Tiger credit for her prudence.
She had suggested hiding Little Toad in a dark corner, just in case.
And to think you, lad, stepped right into the trap!
Now let me repay you... Toad, kill him while he's injured!
If I lose, the rest will be in trouble


Open!

Argh! What's that?


BOOP
NGH
FLOOP

FLOOP
I'm losing control of my hands and mind! Ha!
I can't even use 50% of my Taiji Sky Wheel! Hope it can still ward them off!
Ha, ha! Just a broken disc! Big deal! Kill him!

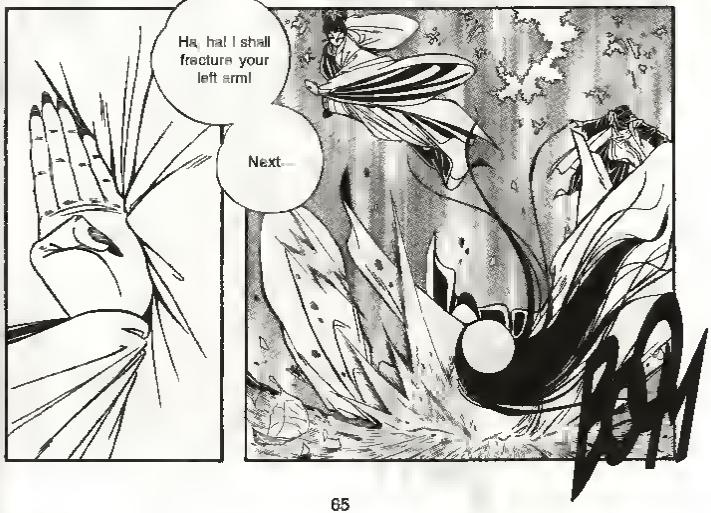
Thump, thump...
My heart is racing... What's going on?
ELECTRIC ILLUSION FINGER!

SHOOSH
Good! You more than doubled your speed!
BAP
SHOOSH
Even if I can catch up with her, she's too swift in her movements.

I can't use a direct attack!

Argh!
Qi?!

Hey don't you want this flower?


Ha, ha! I shall fracture your left arm!
Next...
POW

BOOM

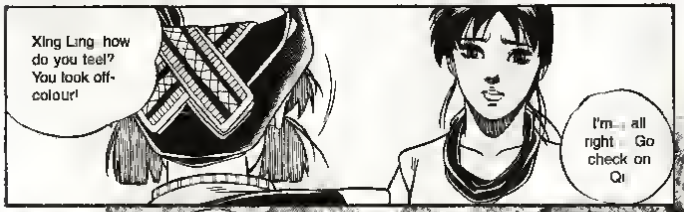
Chan... He's the Three-Star Toad...
Beware... he's poisonous all over... Don't touch him...
Qi...
Careful...
Despicable!

ILLUSION SABRE POWER!
BRP
BRP

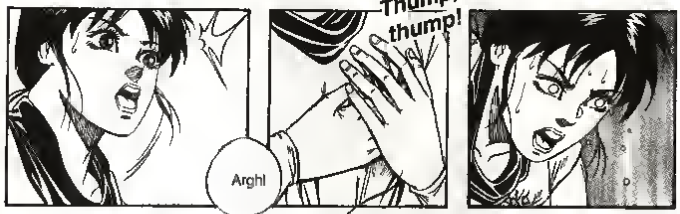
Chuyi! Trouble! Qi has been poisoned too!
What?!

OK, I'll use my spiritual force to protect Chi Xue's heart for the time being

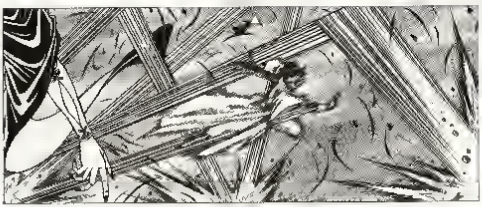
It'll step up her resistance in the meantime... Huh?!


Xing Ling, how do you feel? You look off-colour!
I'm... all right. Go check on Qi

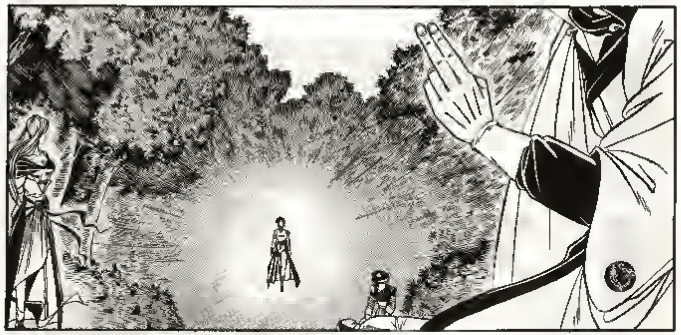
In that case, why don't you keep her company here?
I'll help Qi over and give you another check-up

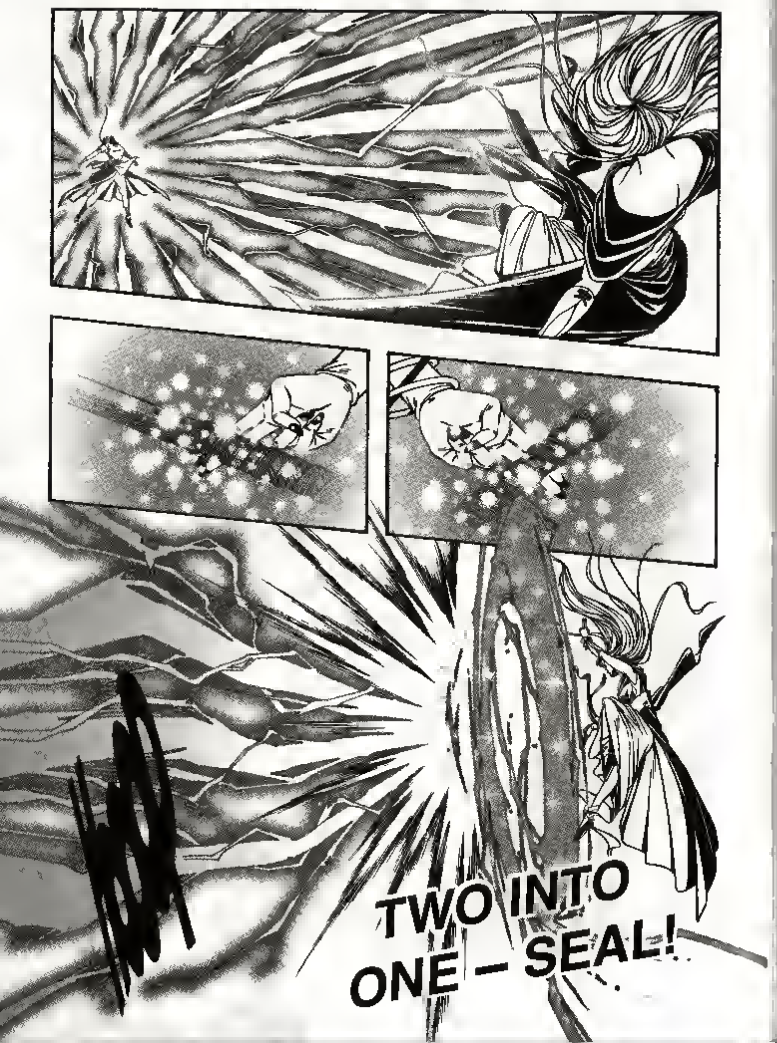

Thump, thump!
Argh!

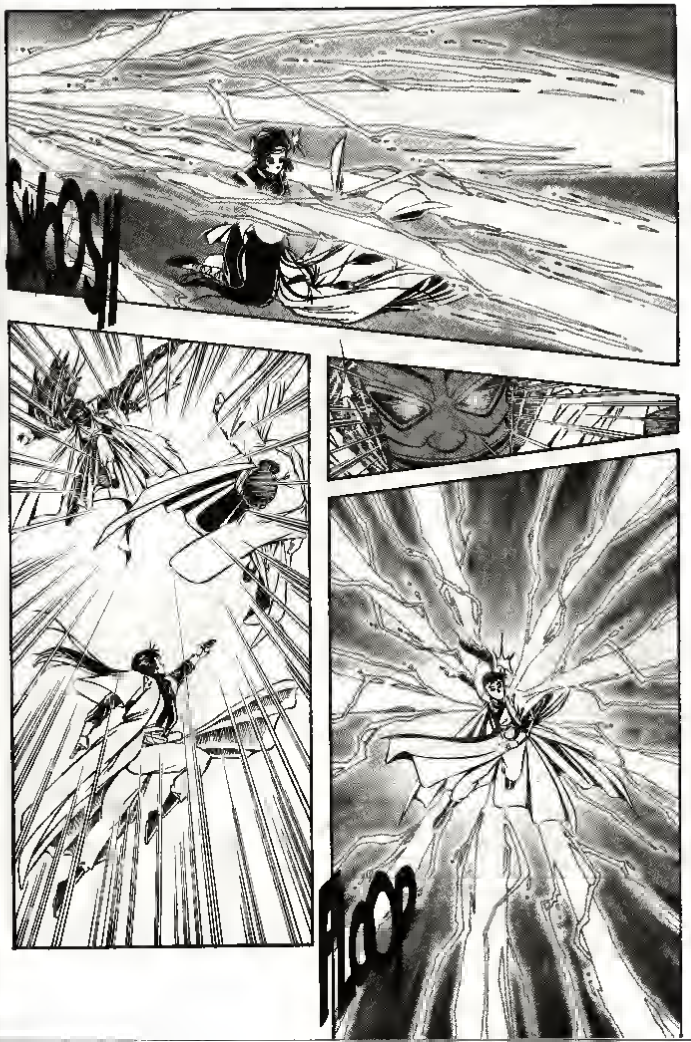
Quickening



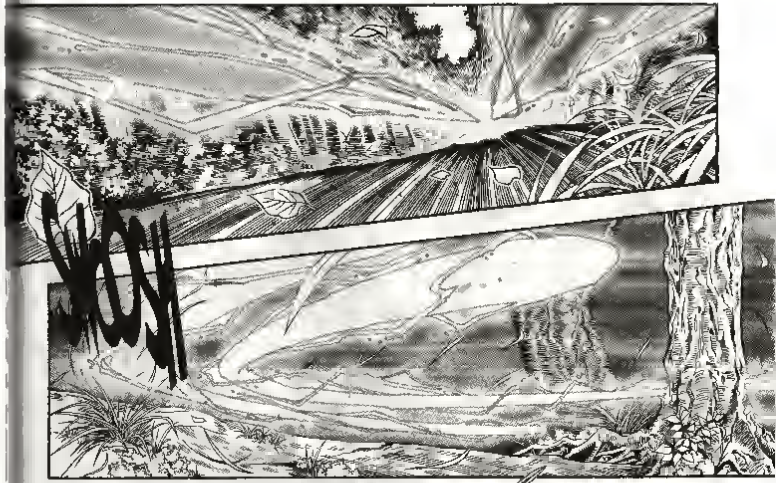
MUTATION
AGAIN



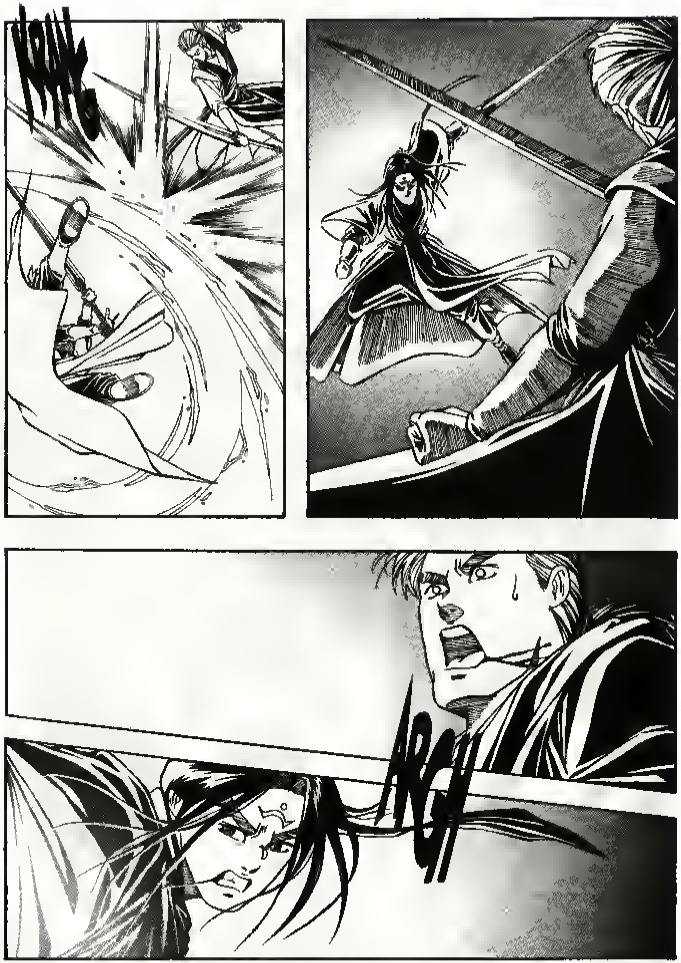

TWO INTO
ONE – SEAL!

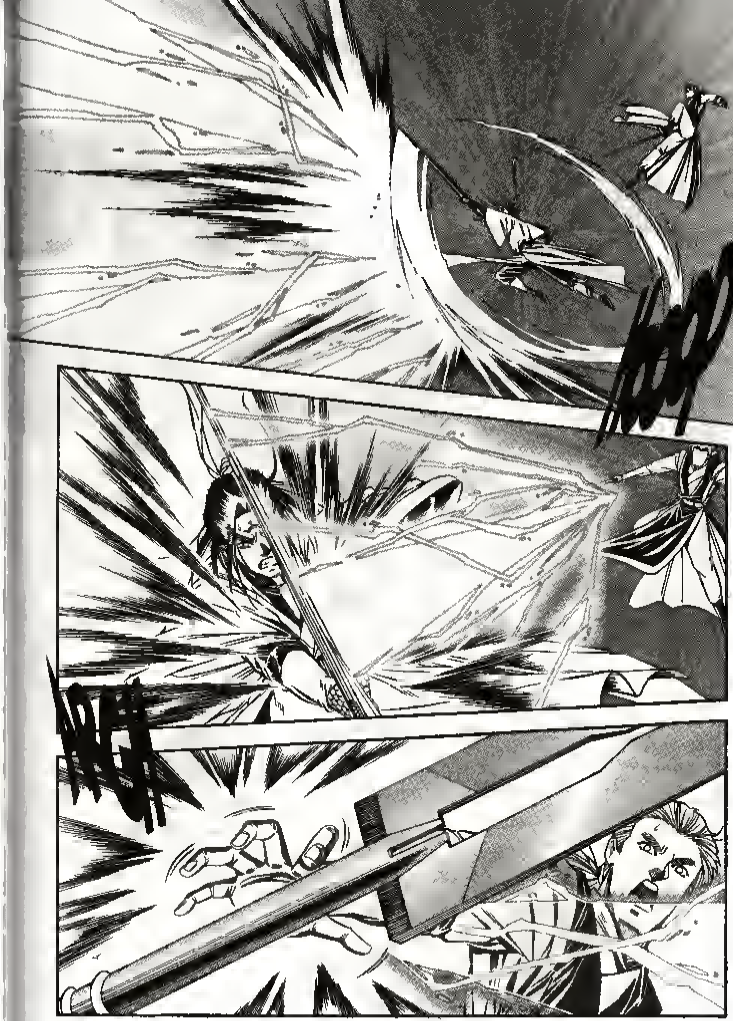

WHOSH
FLOOP

LETHAL TOAD HANDS!!
THOP
THOP

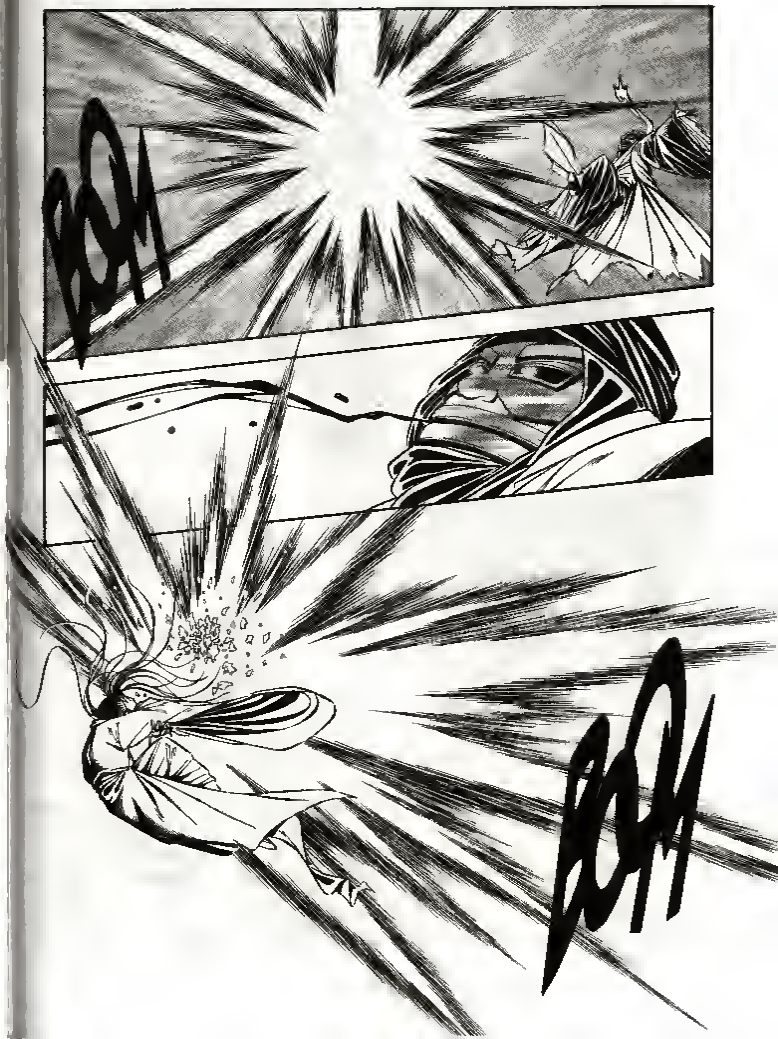

WOOSH

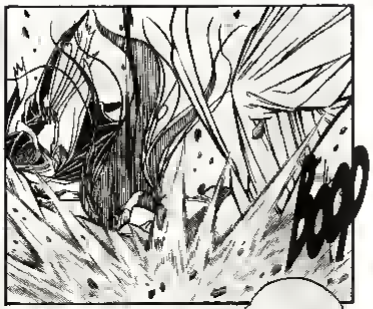
BOOM


ARGH

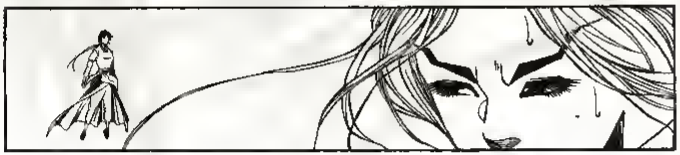


BAP


BOM
BOM

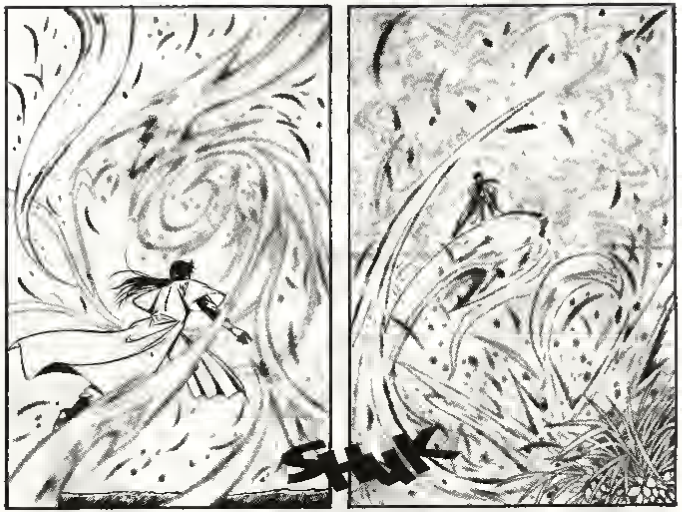

boop

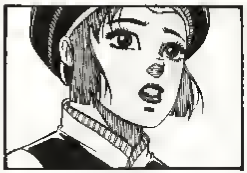
Little Toad, run!

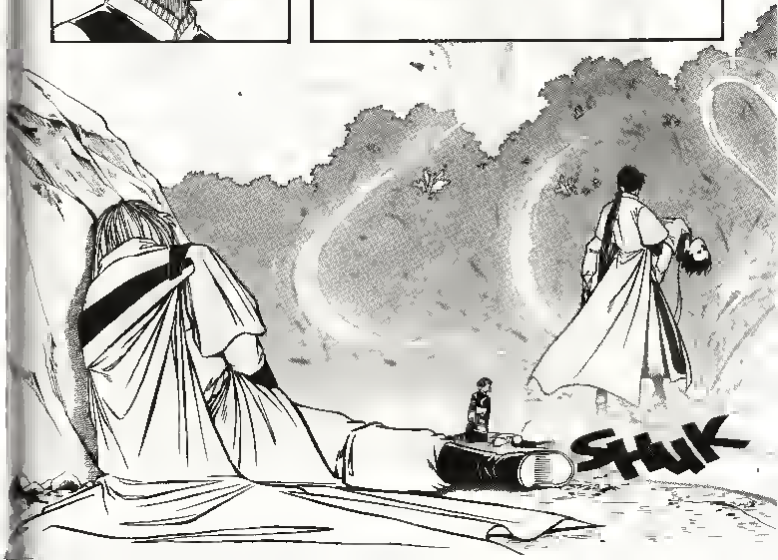


Don't let Three-Star Toad escape!

WHIRLWIND ILLUSION!

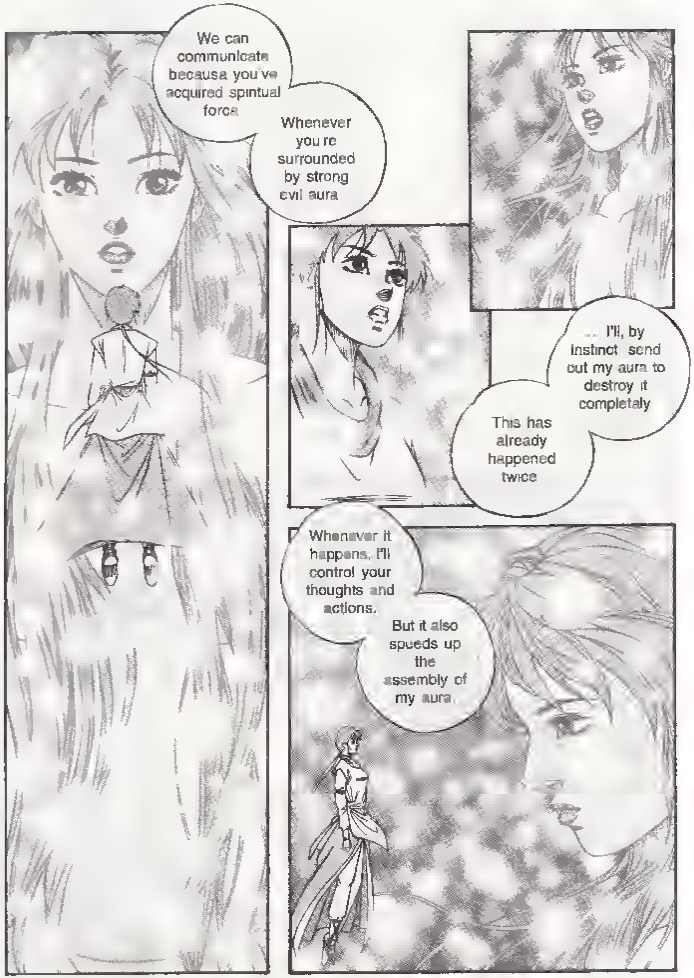

Shuk

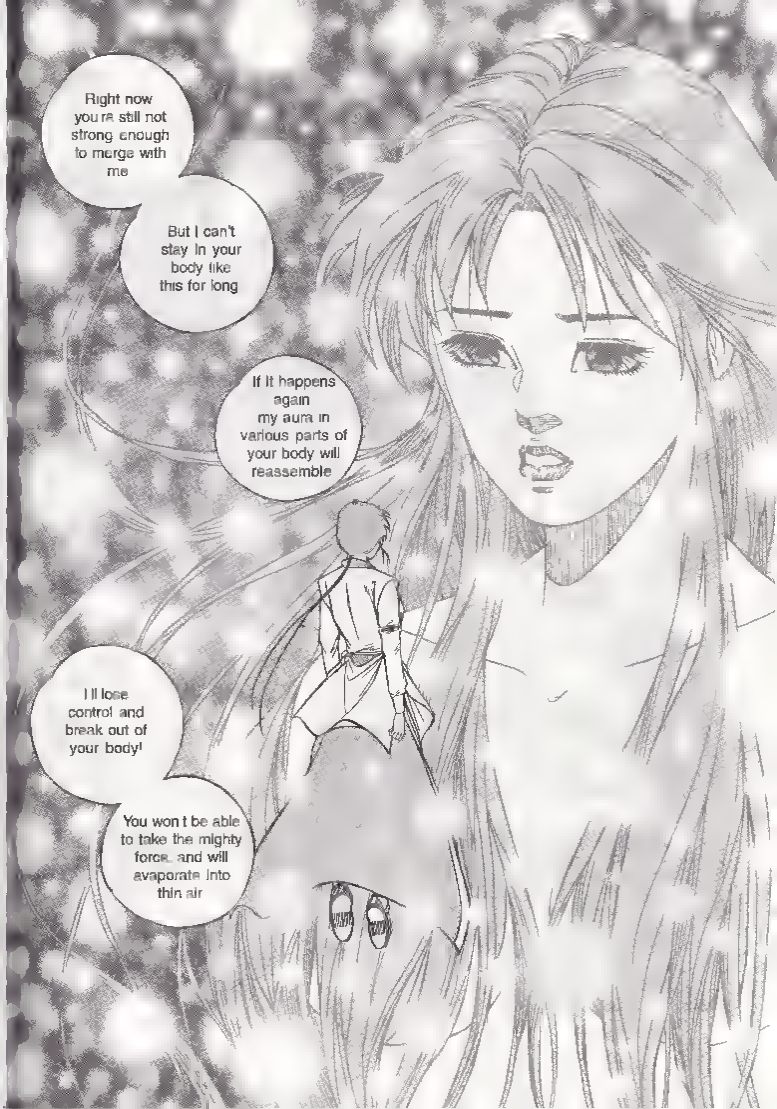



Shuk

How come I'm here again?
Where am I?
Ah! It's you again!

Good We can communicate at last!
Who are you? Why do we look so alike?
Where am I? Why do we always meet here?
We're in your thoughts
Huh? My thoughts?
Right I am the Aura of E-mai which entered your body.
You already know the cause of it all.
I've taken on your appearance because...
... we've temporarily become one.
Temporarily ... become one... Ha!


We can communicate because you've acquired spintual force
Whenever you're surrounded by strong evil aura
... I'll, by instinct send out my aura to destroy it completely
This has already happened twice
Whenever it happens, I'll control your thoughts and actions.
But it also speeds up the assembly of my aura


Right now you're still not strong enough to merge with me
But I can't stay in your body like this for long
If it happens again my aura in various parts of your body will reassemble
I'll lose control and break out of your body!
You won't be able to take the mighty force, and will evaporate into thin air

What... shall I do now?
I'm sorry I don't understand the biological make-up of the human body
Perhaps your friends can give you more help
Please tell them that if you can't merge with me...
... they'll have to free me soon. Only then can you be saved
I do not wish to harm you. Please try your best

How did it end up like this?
Argh! What a lethal poison!
Ah! Xing Ling, you've woken up
How do you feel?
I'm OK... They...

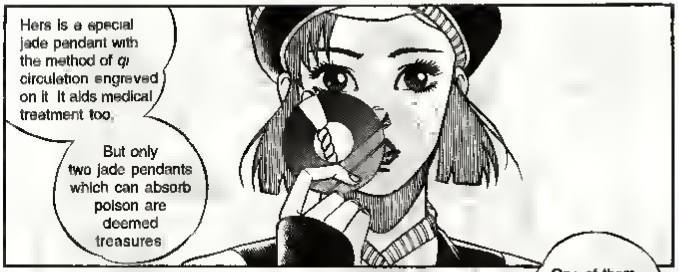
It's terrible... Though I know little about medicine...
... I can tell they're in critical conditions
I'm not sure if they can fully recover
Oh! Meng Xin from Dream Valley may be able to help!
But we don't know where Dream Valley is...
Elder Panda, isn't there another medical skill in the celestial realm?
The legendary acupuncture moxibustion skill, the Mystical Twelve Earthly Branches?

Right! The Mystical Twelve Earthly Branches may save them. Right, Chuyi?
Right! I'm quite sure.
Ah!! Lass You're the successor to the Mystical Twelve Earthly Branches?
Yes

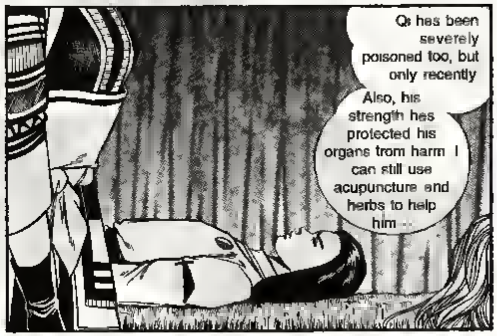
Chan, how did you know about her skill?
It was only my conjecture...
When Xing Ling's aura was tighting the enemy. I tried to capture Little Toad, but to no avail
I was anxious, but I noticed that Chuyi was calm.
Next, I saw her using a special method to check Chi Xue and Wei Ci.
Her composure in handling the lethal poison shows she is an expenenced physician
In the Celestial Zone, only the Mystical Twelve Earthly Branches enjoys equal fame with Madam Meng Xin's skill.
Judging by looks and age, she can't be Madam Meng Xin.
As such, I was certain she's acquired the Mystical Twelve Earthly Branches

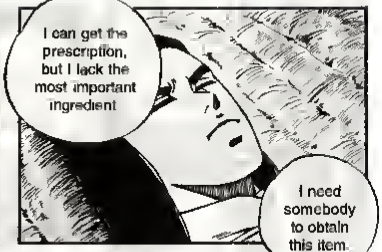
That's why I, too, calmed down
Chuyi, you're fantastic!
But I have a problem
— I can only use the skill on one of them
Why?
The process requires too much energy
At my present state of cultivation, I can only perform it once.
After each treatment, I'll need to rest for more than six months

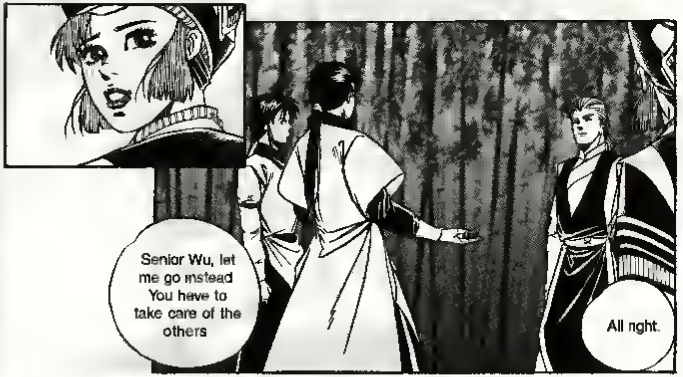
Chi Xuo has been poisoned for a longer time, so her need is more pressing
Good thing her Moving Air Jade pendant has absorbed a good part of the poison
Together with her own strength, she has survived till now.
But unless we save her now, she'll die after two days.
I shall give her the treatment first
Chuyi, what's this jade pendant you mentioned. And what shall we do with Qi?


Here is a special jade pendant with the method of qi circulation engraved on it. It aids medical treatment too.
But only two jade pendants which can absorb poison are deemed treasures.

Author's note: The Moving Air Jade did exist during the Spring and Autumn Period.


Qi has been severely poisoned too, but only recently
Also, his strength has protected his organs from harm. I can still use acupuncture and herbs to help him...

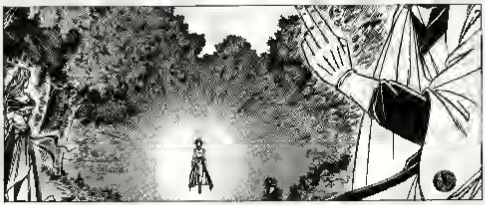




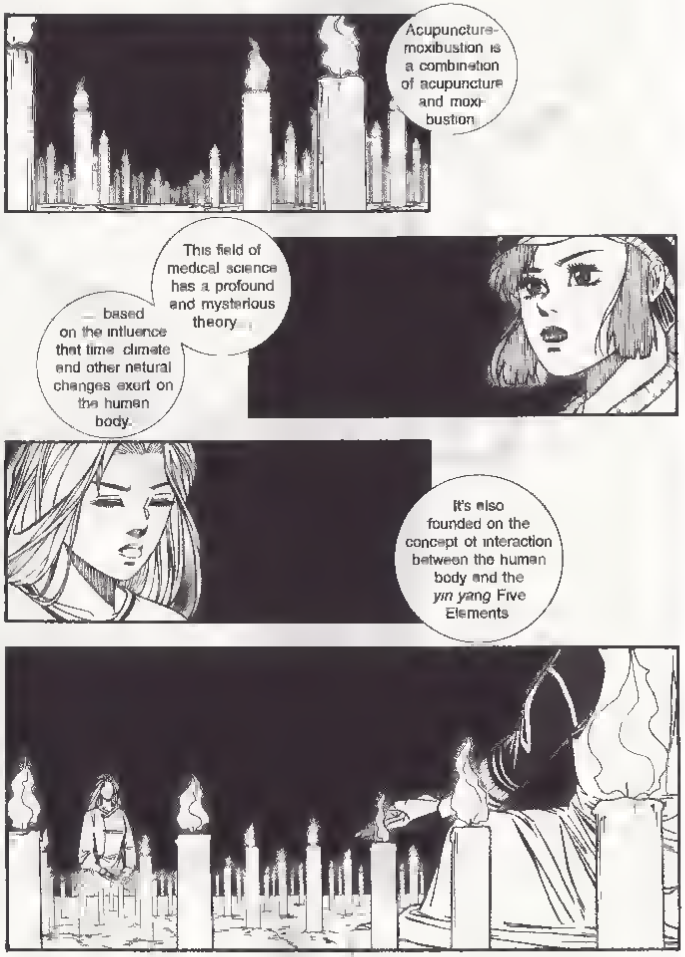
Chen, you must return within 28 days. You'll need 12 to 13 days to reach the destination.
Back and forth, it'll take 24 to 26 days!
You're racing against time.
Chuyi, what is he supposed to get?
The scales of the Dragon Fish.
Dragon Fish?
Lass, I hear it's a kind of spiritual beast.
It's been protected by the Jiaos in a secluded and mystanous place.

I will make the arrangements, Chan, I'll tell you the details and give you the map.
Elder Panda, please prepare 240 candles. I need them to administer the treatment.
No problem.
Father, let me do something for Brother Qi.
Belle, you stay here and take care of him.
That'll be a great help.
Belle, listen to Wang Chan.

Quickening



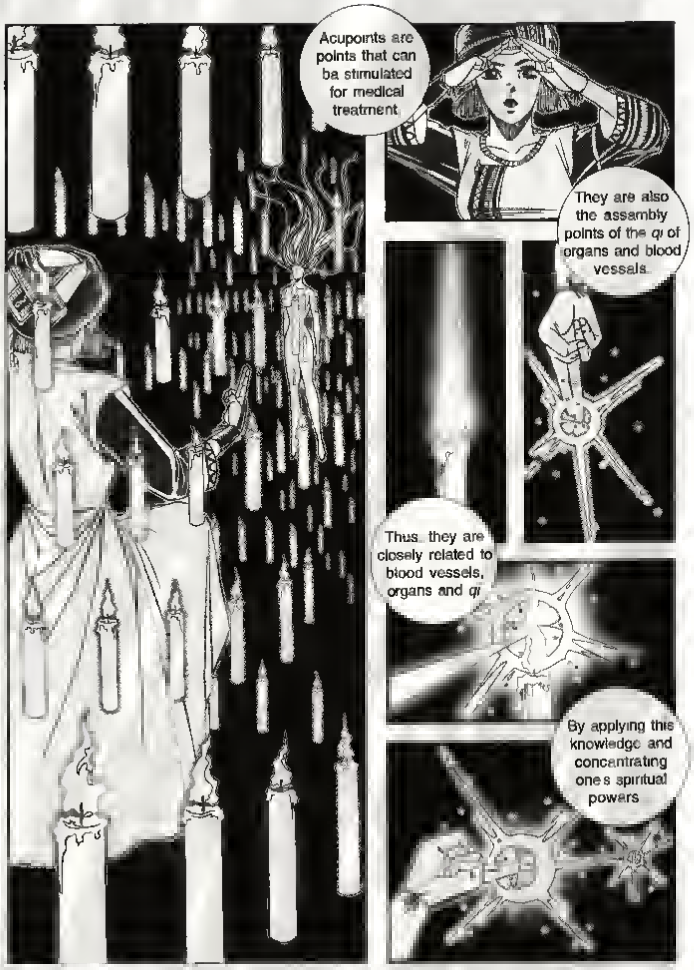
MYSTICAL
TWELVE
EARTHLY
BRANCHES

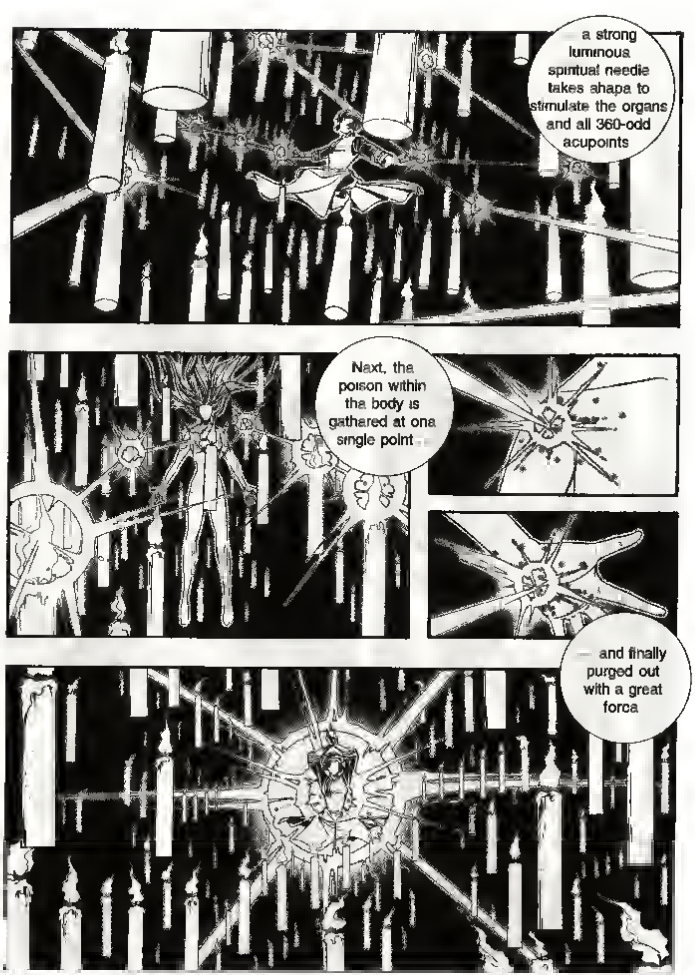

Acupuncture-moxibustion is a combination of acupuncture and moxibustion
This field of medical science has a profound and mysterious theory...
... based on the influence that time, climate and other natural changes exert on the human body.
It's also founded on the concept of interaction between the human body and the *yin yang* Five Elements

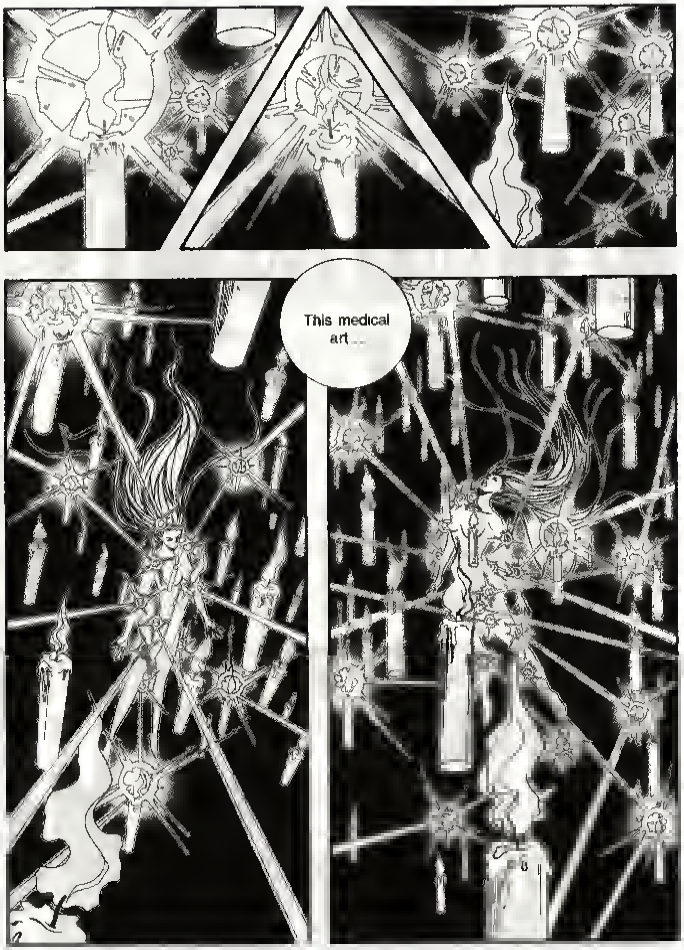
As blood circulation and energy flow are dependent on time
a regular pattern of ups and downs can be detected

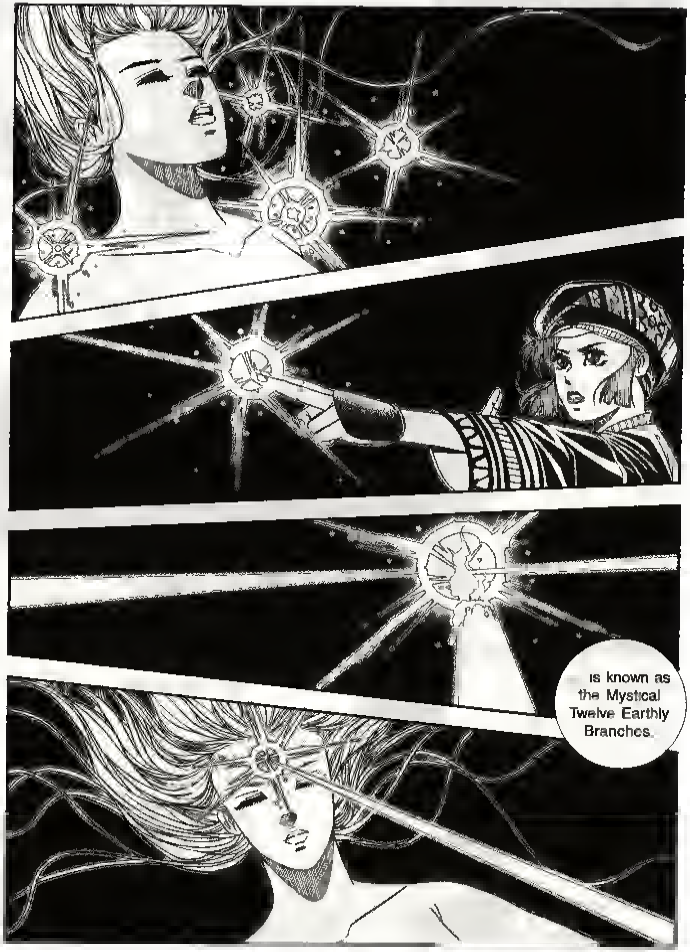
Based on the cycle of changes revolving around the elements of metal, wood, water, fire and earth...
nurtured by wind, heat, fire, warmth, dryness and cold over the Mystical Twelve Earthly Branches*...
... a man's biological changes can be predicted, and his blood circulation as well as the opening and closing of his acupoints can be reckoned.
Thus, medical treatment is administered and poison can be purged

** Mystical Twelve Earthly Branches: zi, chou, yin, mao, chen, si, wu, wei, shen, you, xu and hai. Representing two hours each, they make up the 24 hours of the day.*


Acupoints are points that can be stimulated for medical treatment
They are also the assembly points of the qi of organs and blood vessels
Thus, they are closely related to blood vessels, organs and qi
By applying this knowledge and concentrating one's spiritual powers


— a strong luminous spiritual needle takes shape to stimulate the organs and all 360-odd acupoints
Next, the poison within the body is gathered at one single point
— and finally purged out with a great force


This medical art...

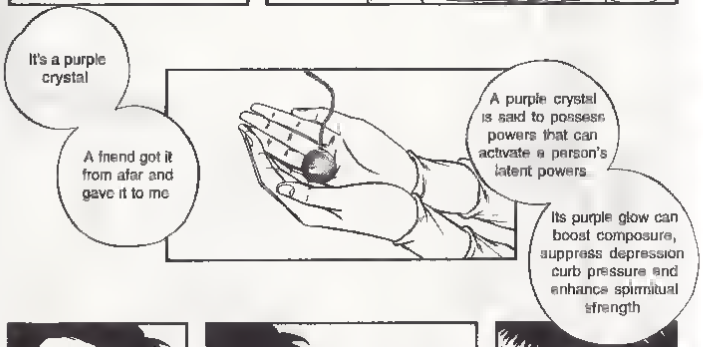

...is known as the Mystical Twelve Earthly Branches.

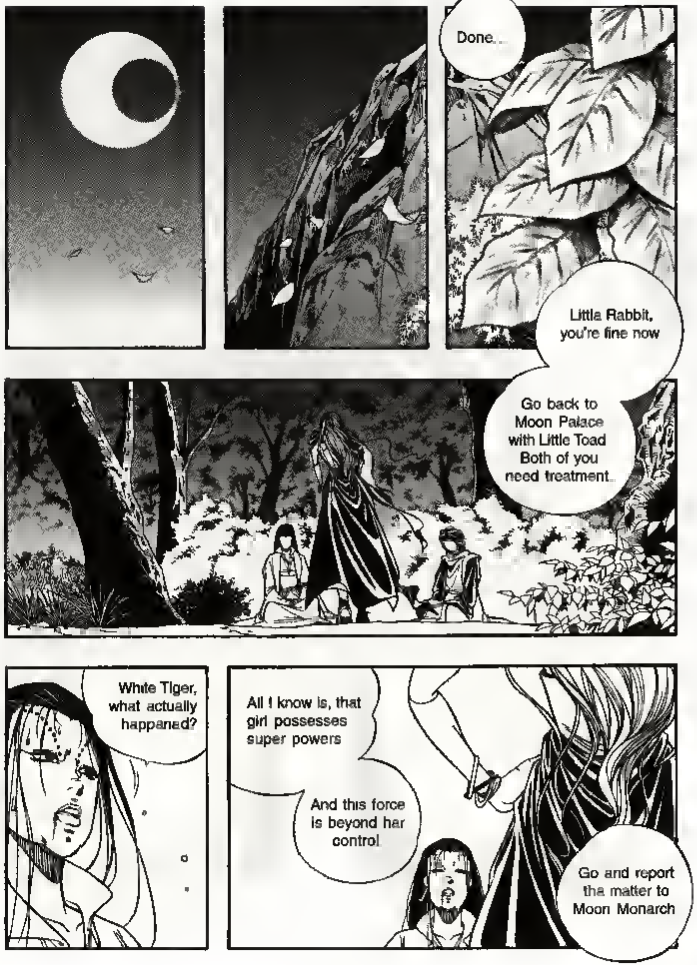
Oh! It's wonderful! You could communicate with the Aura of E-mei!
Frankly, I still feel as if I were in a dream.
Xing Ling what you said just now is simply too important!
You can't take another round of the 100-year-old aura dispersing from your body
Unless we can merge you with it soon we'll have to release it quickly
How? I've done my best.
I don't know what to do

Sigh... Chan, will you keep it from the others?
I don't want them to worry about me
Xing Ling
Anyway I feel better after sharing with you
Thanks, Chan

Xing Ling
this is for
you

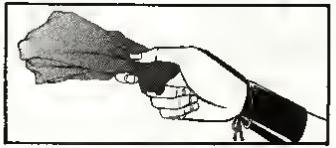
Wow, it's
beautiful!

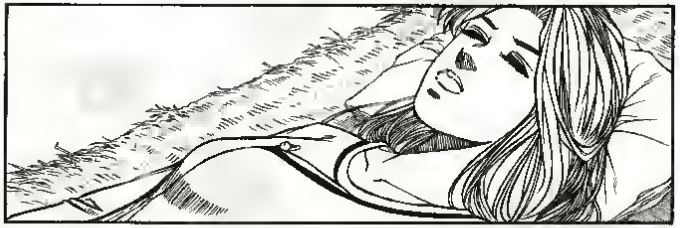

It's a purple
crystal
A friend got it
from afar and
gave it to me
A purple crystal
is said to possess
powers that can
activate a person's
latent powers
Its purple glow can
boost composure,
suppress depression
curb pressure and
enhance spiritual
strength

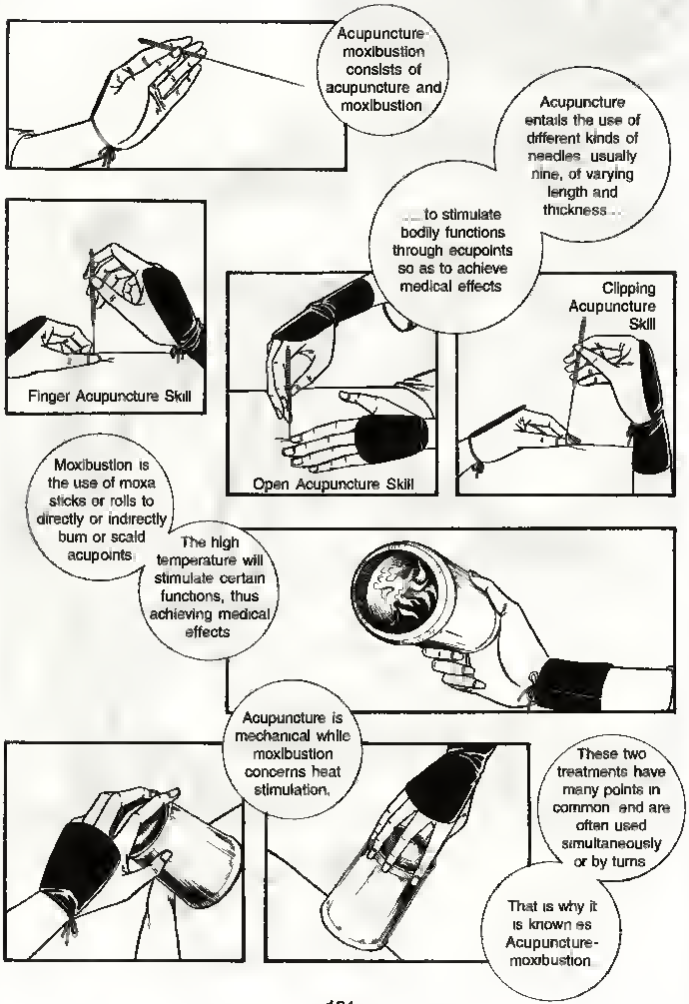

Done...
Little Rabbit, you're fine now
Go back to Moon Palace with Little Toad Both of you need treatment.
White Tiger, what actually happened?
All I know is, that girl possesses super powers
And this force is beyond her control
Go and report the matter to Moon Monarch

Oh Jian Ao? What a sorry state you're in! Ha, ha!
Go with them. Perhaps Moon Monarch has other instructions.
Yan-er, where are you going?
None of your concern!

Chuyi is out
Don t worry. Chi Xue is all right
Wow! Fantastic! But Chuyi you look pale Are you OK?
Yes... Let Chi Xue rest awhile






Acupuncture-moxibustion consists of acupuncture and moxibustion
Acupuncture entails the use of different kinds of needles usually nine, of varying length and thickness ...
... to stimulate bodily functions through ecupoints so as to achieve medical effects
Finger Acupuncture Skill
Open Acupuncture Skill
Clipping Acupuncture Skill
Moxibustion is the use of moxa sticks or rolls to directly or indirectly burn or scald acupoints
The high temperature will stimulate certain functions, thus achieving medical effects
Acupuncture is mechanical while moxibustion concerns heat stimulation.
These two treatments have many points in common and are often used simultaneously or by turns
That is why it is known as Acupuncture-moxibustion

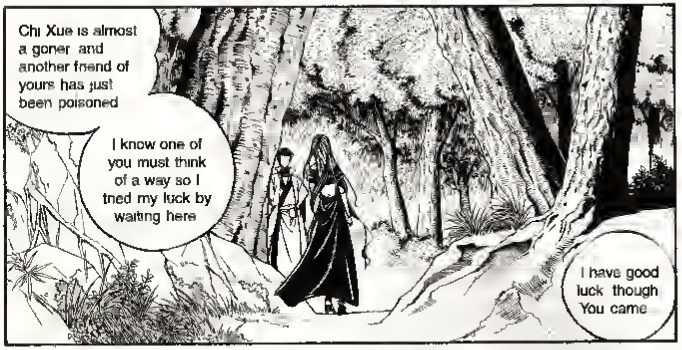
It's getting late. I've got to get going
Xing Ling, I've made all arrangements. Work hard on your part.
Be careful.
I will

* Panda Lodge

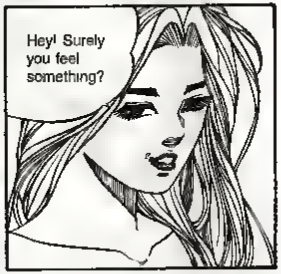
熊貓小居

Hi, morning!

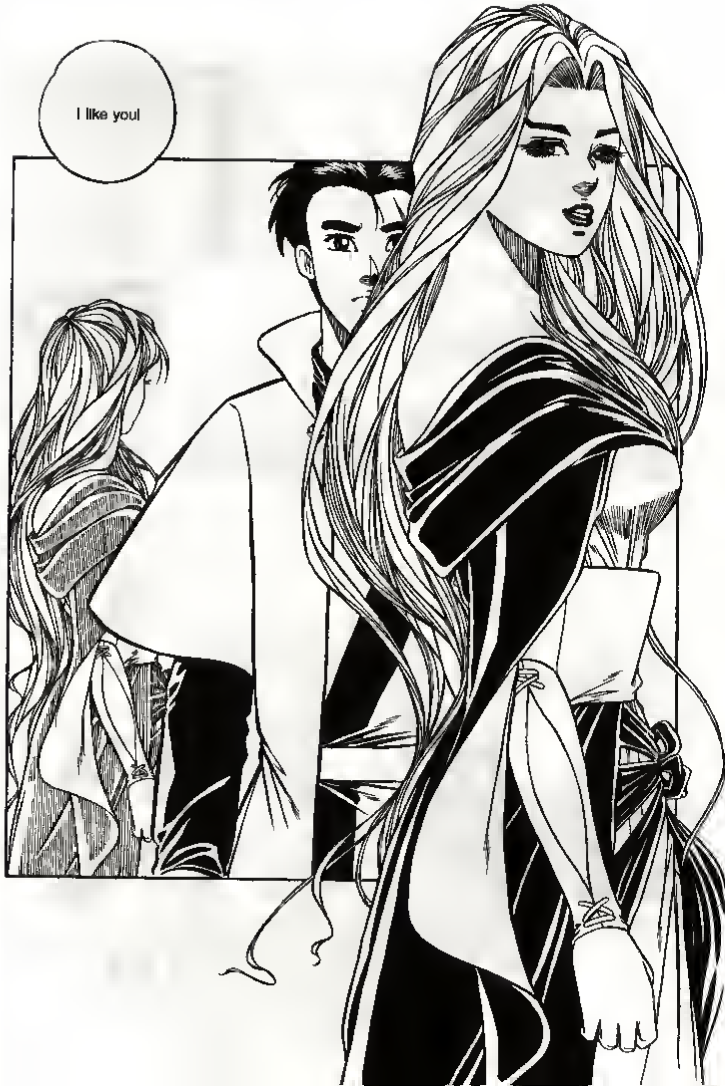
You're not here to give me the antidote, right?
Sigh must you treat me so coldly? I've waited the whole night for you
if I heve the antidote, I might give it to you
But Little Toad never concocts any antidote
What do you want? I don't wish to waste my time on you!
I want to go with you to look for the ingredient for the antidote


Chi Xue is almost a goner and another friend of yours has just been poisoned
I know one of you must think of a way so I tried my luck by waiting here
I have good luck though You came

Excuse me! Let me pass

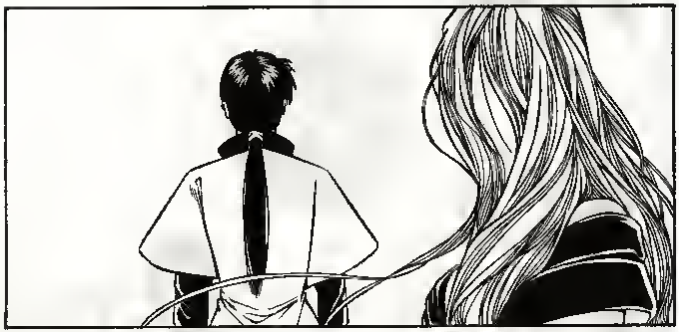

Hey! Surely you feel something?

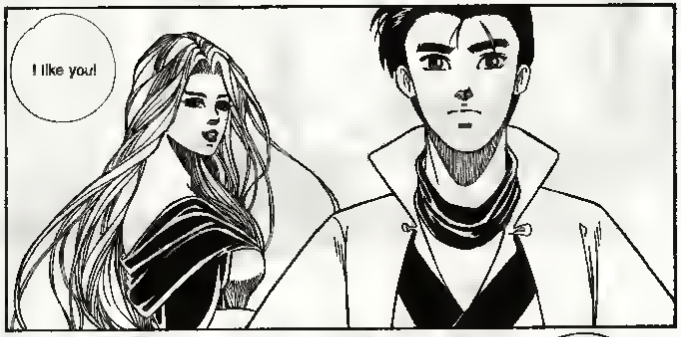
Sigh, I'll tell you straight


I like you!

Cheep
Cheep
Cheep...

Aiya!
Carry on with your practice!




I like you!

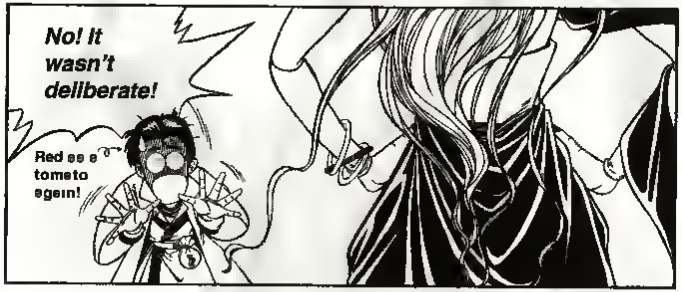
Sorry. Good and evil are irreconcilable. It's impossible between us!

Ha! My forehead doesn't carry the word "evil"
You say I'm evil, but have you ever seen me do evil?

The fight with the Destroyer was an ordinary one. We serve different masters, so it's no surprise someone got hurt

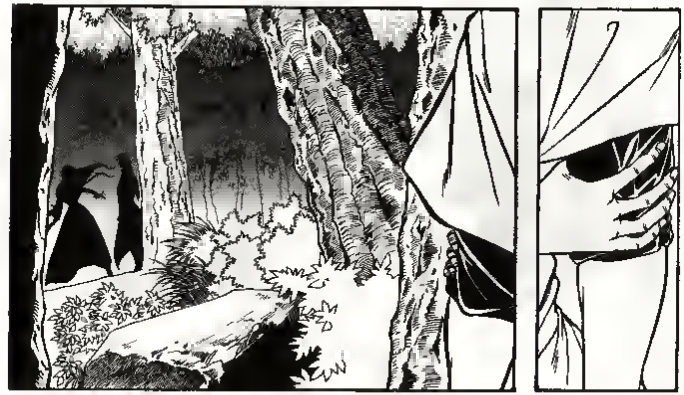
In the forest, I hurt no one!

But someone molested me there though...


No! It wasn't deliberate!
Red as a tomato again!

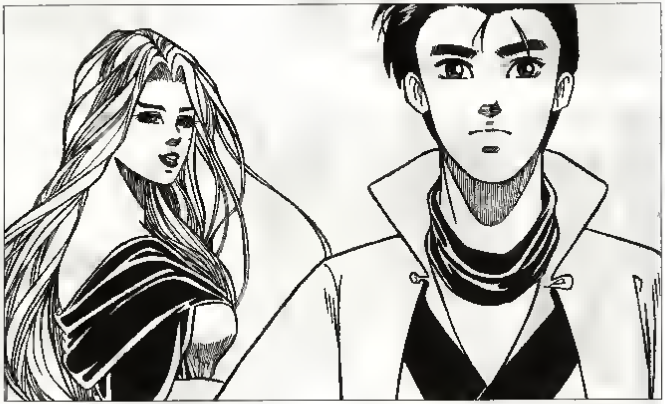
Whatever it is, you owe me one.
Besides, we can choose to go wherever we wish
You have no right to stop me from walking beside you
Hurry Your friend's condition is critical Stop wasting time!

Ha, ha!



Coming Up Next...

After his encounter with White Tiger,
what new adventures will Wang Chan face on his upcoming journey?
Will he succeed in finding the Dragon Fish?
Who are the Jiaos?
Can Xing Ling escape her fate as predicted by the Aura of E-mei?
How did Danian Chuyi's name come about?



Find out the answers in
Volume 8: South Sea Dragon Fish

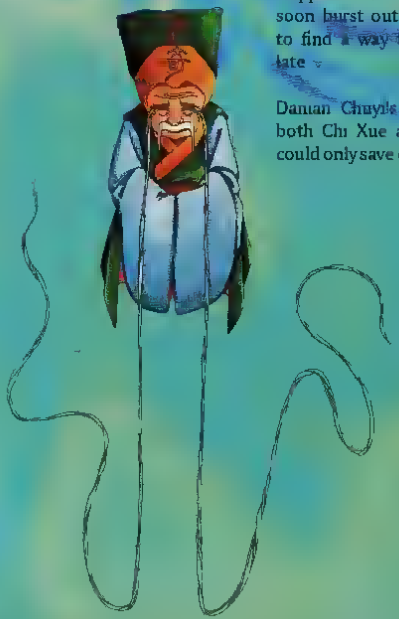
The Celestial Zone
Mystical Twelve Earthly Branches
7
An Asiapac Publication
Written & Illustrated by
WEE TIAN BENG

The Celestial Zone

Mystical Twelve Earthly Branches 7

This series relates the camaraderie and heart-stopping exploits of an extraordinary group of people during the tumultuous Warring States Era. Living in a world of their own — a place known as the Celestial Zone — they worked on cultivating special powers beyond the comprehension of mere mortals. Unfortunately, one group branched into the cultivation of evil power and the showdown between two opposing forces began.

In this volume, a flurry of action erupted as Xing Ling and her friends took on Jade Rabbit and her evil collaborators. Alas, Wei Qi was poisoned by the deadly Three-Star Toad!



Xing Ling had an encounter with the Aura of E-mei trapped in her body and was warned that it would soon burst out of her body. To save herself, she had to find a way to release the aura before it was too late.

Damian Chuyi's desperate race against time to save both Chi Xue and Wei Qi began. Unfortunately, she could only save one.

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